

Numicon 6/NZ Year 8 Planning

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You can follow *Numicon* as a complete teaching programme using the long-term plan provided here.

You can also dip into the rich bank of activities and resources to supplement your teaching. Pick a topic on the long-term plan, click on it for details and to open it in the online handbook.

Contents

[Click on a link below to go straight there!](#)

Long-term plan

Page 2

This long-term plan shows you the recommended order for teaching the Numicon 6/NZ Year 8 Activity Groups over the school year. It includes links to the summary information for each unit and links to open those activities in the online handbooks. Milestone markers on the plan take you to the skills and understanding children need to be secure in to help them progress.

Strand and Activity Group Number	Activity Group Title
Preparing for Formal Testing 1	Self-assessment and choosing imagery
Preparing for Formal Testing 2	Problem solving strategies
Numbers and the Number System 1	Working with numbers beyond a million and decimals
Calculating 1	Adding and subtracting negative numbers in context, and large numbers
Calculating 2	Multiplying and dividing

NPC Milestone 1

Details for each unit of learning

Page 5

These are summaries for each unit. They follow the order in the long-term plan and list every activity in the unit. Log into your subscription to Numicon Online first, then click on any activity to open it in the online handbook. When you're in the online handbook you can go to the Links tab and download the accompanying resources, including any Explorer Progress worksheets, photocopy masters or Explore More homework.

Numbers and the Number System 1: Working with numbers beyond a million and decimals

Key mathematical ideas: Place value, Ordering, Rounding, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context: This activity group is aimed at deepening children's understanding of the place value system, with a focus on large numbers to 10 000 000 and numbers with up to three decimal places. It builds on children's prior knowledge of the number system and the repeating patterns that appear as numbers increase and decrease.

Terms for children to use: ten million, million, hundred thousand, ten thousand, thousand, hundred, tens, ones, tenths, hundredths, thousandths, digit, column value, quantity value, zero, rough, decimal point, ascending, descending, place value, scale, interval, rounding, exchange, bigger, smaller, greater than, less than, halfway between

Assessment opportunities: Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Can read large and decimal numbers correctly, represent them with images or objects and say the value of each digit.
- Notice the pattern of powers of 10 within the number system and can make numbers 10 times bigger or smaller.
- Can order whole numbers and explain why one number is larger or smaller than another.
- Recognize the difficulty in positioning large numbers accurately on a number line and suggest rounding to make this more manageable.
- Round large numbers to different degrees of accuracy.
- Recognize that the principle of 'one of these being equivalent to ten of those' continues indefinitely to both the right and left of the decimal point.

NPC Milestone 1:

- Understand the value of each digit in large numbers up to ten million and numbers with up to 3 decimal places (NPC 6.1a)
- Order numbers with up to 8 digits and position them on a number line (NPC 6.1b)

Explorer Progress Book 6a, pp. 4-5: After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 5: Rounding Populations: After completing work on Activity 5, give children Explore More Copymaster 5: Rounding Populations to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 2-5: These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities:

- Ordering and comparing numbers up to 10 000 000
- Consolidating understanding of the value of digits in numbers to 10 000 000
- Rounding numbers beyond a million and applying them on a number line
- Identifying the value of digits in numbers to three decimal places

Assessment support

Page 31

Milestone statements help you assess progress throughout the year and inform your teaching and planning. They indicate the skills and understanding children need to be secure in as they progress through the teaching programme before they are able to successfully meet new ideas. This section includes a link to the set of question cards that can be used for assessment or self-assessment and to a tracking spreadsheet to help you record that information.

Milestone	Code	NPC / GM	Numicon strand	AG	NC strand
Number, Pattern & Calculating 6 Milestone 1					
By this point, children should be able to:					
Understand the value of each digit in large numbers up to ten million and numbers with up to 3 decimal places	NPC6:1a	NPC	NNS	NNS1	Number & place value
Order numbers with up to 8 digits and position them on a number line	NPC6:1b	NPC	NNS	NNS1	Number & place value
Use appropriate mental methods to add, subtract, multiply and divide increasingly large numbers	NPC6:1c	NPC	C	C2	Add, subtract, multiply and divide
Use different approaches to add and subtract negative numbers in context	NPC6:1d	NPC	C	C1	Number & place value
Number, Pattern & Calculating 6 Milestone 2					
By this point, children should be able to:					
Identify common factors, common multiples and prime numbers	NPC6:2a	NPC	P&A	P&A1	Add, subtract, multiply and divide
Compare and order fractions by expressing them as equivalent fractions with a common denominator	NPC6:2b	NPC	NNS	NNS2	Fractions
Use estimation to check answers to calculations	NPC6:2c	NPC	C	C3	Add, subtract, multiply and divide
Solve problems which require answers to be rounded to specified degrees of accuracy	NPC6:2d	NPC	C	C3	Add, subtract, multiply and divide
Use column methods of adding and subtracting for larger numbers and decimals	NPC6:2e	NPC	C	C4	Add, subtract, multiply and divide
Understand, recall and use equivalences between simple fractions, decimals and percentages	NPC6:2f	NPC	C	C5	Fractions
Geometry, Measurement & Statistics 6 Milestone 1					
By this point, children should be able to:					

Long-term plan for Numicon 6 (NZ Year 8)

There are two Numicon teaching handbooks for each year group. Subscribers to *Numicon Online* have access to a digital version of these. Print versions are also available (visit: www.edushop.nz). The units in these books are called Activity Groups. They contain a collection of activities you can use with your class.

This long-term plan shows you the recommended order for teaching the Activity Groups over the school year.

- Click on a heading in the **left** column to get all the information for that Activity Group.
- Click on an Activity Group title in the **right** column to go straight to those activities in the online handbooks.

Milestones

To help you monitor learning, the skills and understanding children need to be secure with as they progress through the programme have been captured in a series of milestone statements. Click on the milestone icons to see these. Extra support to help you use these is provided at the end of this document.

Number, Pattern and Calculating 6

Geometry, Measures and Statistics 6

Statistics and Probability Booklet (*coming mid-April 2025*)

Strand and Activity Group Number	Activity Group Title
Preparing for Formal Testing 1	Self-assessment and choosing imagery
Preparing for Formal Testing 2	Problem solving strategies
Numbers and the Number System 1	Working with numbers beyond a million and decimals
Calculating 1	Adding and subtracting negative numbers in context, and large numbers
Calculating 2	Multiplying and dividing
NPC Milestone 1	
Measurement 1	Statistics, charts and graphs
Pattern and Algebra 1	Multiples, factors and primes
Numbers and the Number System 2	Fractions
Statistics and Probability 1	Statistical investigation and data visualization (<i>coming mid-April 2025</i>)
Calculating 3	Estimating, rounding and equivalence
Calculating 4	Column methods for adding and subtracting
Calculating 5	Percentages
NPC Milestone 2	
Geometry 1	2D shapes and angles
GMS Milestone 1	
Calculating 6	Exploring calculations: multi-step non-routine problems and order of operations
Calculating 7	Ratio and proportion
Statistics and Probability 2	Investigating probability (<i>coming mid-April 2025</i>)
Measurement 2	Areas of 2D shapes
Calculating 8	Converting fractions and decimals
Pattern and Algebra 2	Exploring number sequences and relationships
NPC Milestone 3	
Measurement 3	3D shapes – nets and surface area
GMS Milestone 2	

Strand and Activity Group Number	Activity Group Title
Calculating 9	Written column methods of multiplying
Calculating 10	Introducing long written methods of dividing
Measurement 4	Volume and scaling
Calculating 11	Adding and subtracting with fractions
Calculating 12	Multiplying and dividing fractions
Pattern and Algebra 3	Using algebra to solve problems
NPC Milestone 4	
Geometry 2	Circles
Calculating 13	Solving non-routine problems using all four operations
Geometry 3	Transformations in the four quadrants
GMS Milestone 3	
Pattern and Algebra 4	Using symbols and letters for variables and unknowns
NPC Milestone 5	
Preparing for Formal Testing 3	Fluency in calculating with whole numbers and decimals
Preparing for Formal Testing 4	Fluency in calculating with fractions and decimals
Preparing for Formal Testing 5	Preparing to do maths in test conditions

NPC and GMS Investigating activity groups

The investigating activities are independent and can be followed in any order. You may choose to use some or all of the topics with your class, according to their interests and the time available.

NPC Investigating 1	Making squares
NPC Investigating 2	What did I do?
NPC Investigating 3	How many ways?
NPC Investigating 4	Decimal patterns
NPC Investigating 5	Which is the best value?
NPC Investigating 6	An enterprise project
GMS Investigating 1	Shape shifting
GMS Investigating 2	Macro maths
GMS Investigating 3	Interesting information

Numbers and the Number System 1: Working with numbers beyond a million and decimals

Key mathematical ideas Place value, Ordering, Rounding, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

This activity group is aimed at deepening children's understanding of the place value system, with a focus on large numbers to 10 000 000 and numbers with up to three decimal places. It builds on children's prior knowledge of the number system and the repeating patterns that appear as numbers increase and decrease.

Children's success with this work requires them to have an understanding of several key ideas associated with place value, including: the fact that the position of a digit determines its value, and the related column and quantity values, the use of base- ten (in the sense of grouping or exchanging to 10 to cross columns), and the use of 0 as a place holder. The activities build on all of these ideas and represent a natural progression from work in *Number, Pattern and Calculating 5 Teaching Resource Handbook*.

The activity group begins with children representing and ordering numbers to 10 000 000. They progress to rounding these numbers to different degrees of accuracy and positioning them on a number line. In the final activity, they explore decimal place value, using resources to help them represent and understand the value of digits in numbers with up to three decimal places.

Learning opportunities

- To read, write, compare and order numbers up to 10 000 000.
- To understand and explain the column and quantity values of digits in whole and decimal numbers.
- To round whole numbers to a required degree of accuracy.
- To use a range of representations to support understanding of place value.
- To consolidate understanding of multiplying and dividing by powers of 10.
- To construct a number line and position numbers on it, using an appropriate scale.
- To develop reasoning skills and use patterns within the number system to solve number problems involving place value.

Terms for children to use

ten million, million, hundred thousand, ten thousand, thousand, hundred, tens, ones, tenths, hundredths, thousandths, digit, column value, quantity value, zero, nought, decimal point, ascending, descending, place value, scale, interval, rounding, exchange, bigger, smaller, greater than, less than, halfway between

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Can read large and decimal numbers correctly, represent them with images or apparatus and say the value of each digit.
- Notice the pattern of powers of 10 within the number system and can make numbers 10 times bigger or smaller.
- Can order whole numbers and explain why one number is larger or smaller than another.
- Recognize the difficulty in positioning large numbers accurately on a number line and suggest rounding to make this more manageable.
- Round large numbers to different degrees of accuracy.
- Recognize that the principle of 'one of these being equivalent to ten of those' continues indefinitely to both the right and left of the decimal point.
- Position decimal numbers correctly on a number line.

NPC Milestone 1

- Understand the value of each digit in large numbers up to ten million and numbers with up to 3 decimal places (NPC 6:1a)
- Order numbers with up to 8 digits and position them on a number line (NPC 6:1b)

Explorer Progress Book 6a, pp. 4–5

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 5: Rounding Populations

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 5: Rounding Populations to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 2–5

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Ordering and comparing numbers up to 10 000 000](#)
2. [Consolidating understanding of the value of digits in numbers to 10 000 000](#)
3. [Rounding numbers beyond a million and positioning them on a number line](#)
4. [Identifying the value of digits in numbers to three decimal places](#)

Calculating 1: Adding and subtracting negative numbers in context, and large numbers

Key mathematical ideas Counting, Place value, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

In this activity group children draw on their understanding of adding and subtracting to solve problems involving negative numbers in context and to calculate with large numbers. In Activity 1 they use negative numbers in the context of temperature, revisiting the number line before going on to add and subtract across 0 in Activity 2.

Larger negative numbers are introduced in Activity 3, where children work together to calculate profit and loss.

Activities 4 and 5 involve them in further exploration of adding and subtracting large numbers, with the aim of encouraging flexibility and fluency in children's calculating, enabling them to choose effectively among a variety of possible methods and strategies. Throughout, encourage children to think carefully about the numbers they encounter, and to explain their reasons for choosing a particular approach to calculating.

As children prepare for doing a range of routine calculations in a test environment, see Preparing for Formal Testing 3, Activity 6.

Learning opportunities

- To consolidate understanding of negative numbers.
- To find the difference between a positive and a negative number.
- To understand adding and subtracting calculations which cross 0 in context, e.g. $-3 + 8 = 5$, $4 - 9 = -5$.
- To use different approaches for adding and subtracting negative numbers in context, and larger numbers.
- To consolidate strategies for adding and subtracting mentally or with an informal method with large numbers, including partitioning, bridging and complements.
- To use algebraic thinking to solve missing number problems.

Terms for children to use

negative, positive, minus, plus, above/below zero, direction, size, magnitude, data, exact, approximate, rough, typical, vary, interval, difference, infinity, total, sum, bridging, partitioning, rounding, adjusting, complements, equivalence, finding the difference, taking away, unknown

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Order negative and positive numbers correctly and show their positions on a number line.
- Use a number line to show the effect of adding or subtracting a positive number across 0 in context, and write the related number sentence, e.g. $-3 + 8 = 5$, $4 - 9 = -5$.
- Explain that calculating the difference between a positive and a negative number involves adding the magnitudes, that is, the 'distance' from 0, of both numbers.
- Choose appropriately between a range of strategies for adding and subtracting large numbers mentally.
- Use an understanding of inverse operations to solve missing number problems involving adding or subtracting large numbers.

NPC Milestone 1

- Use different approaches to add and subtract negative numbers in context (NPC 6:1d)

Explorer Progress Book 6a, pp. 6–7

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 7: Shape-man

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 7: Shape-man to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 6–9

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Using negative numbers](#)
2. [Finding differences: Adding and subtracting across 0](#)
3. [Adding and subtracting large numbers across 0](#)
4. [Adding and subtracting large numbers](#)
5. [Calculating missing numbers](#)

Calculating 2: Multiplying and dividing

Key mathematical ideas Multiplying, Dividing, Equivalence, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

In this activity group, children consolidate and further develop their skills in multiplying and dividing mentally, and mentally with jottings. The focus is on continuing to build children's fluency and flexibility. In all of this work, children need to be confident with times table facts and have a good understanding of the operations of multiplying and dividing. In addition to the commutative property of multiplying, which children have already encountered extensively, the activities provide opportunities for exploring the distributive and associative properties, and how these can be used to approach multiplying and dividing calculations.

The activity group begins by encouraging children to explore how factors and partitioning can be used to simplify multiplying calculations, then goes on to consider partitioning as an approach to dividing. Children revisit multiplying and dividing by powers of 10 (10, 100 and 1000), then, in the final activity, they explore how some dividing calculations can be simplified.

Learning opportunities

- To recall and use multiplication facts to 12×12 fluently when calculating.
- To be able to multiply and divide numbers mentally and with jottings using a range of strategies.
- To use factors to simplify multiplying calculations.
- To use partitioning to simplify multiplying and dividing calculations.
- To consolidate understanding of the relationship between fractions and division.
- To multiply and divide numbers by 10, 100 and 1000 to give answers with up to three decimal places.
- To identify ways of simplifying dividing calculations, including those involving decimals, by multiplying or dividing dividend and divisor.

Terms for children to use

factor, multiple, array, mental method, mental method with jottings, equivalent, equivalence, power of 10, doubling, halving, divisible, dividend, divisor, quotient, decimal point, repeated addition/subtraction, scaling

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Use an array to describe and explain a multiplying calculation.
- Explain how they carried out a calculation clearly, using mathematical language.
- Can explain, using example calculations, how factors can be used to simplify a multiplying calculation.
- Can explain, using example calculations, how partitioning can be used to simplify a multiplying or dividing calculation.
- Can suggest more than one way of partitioning numbers in order to simplify a multiplying or dividing calculation.
- Reason that if, e.g. 15 of a whole amount is 24 then the whole amount is given by 24×5 .
- Can describe and explain the effect of multiplying or dividing by 10, 100 or 1000.
- Can simplify a dividing calculation by identifying a suitable common factor by which to multiply or divide dividend and divisor.

NPC Milestone 1

- Use appropriate mental methods to add, subtract, multiply and divide increasingly large numbers (NPC 6:1c)

Explorer Progress Book 6a, pp. 8–9

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 8: Sunflowers

After completing work on Activity 4, give children Explore More Copymaster 8: Sunflowers to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 10–13

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Using factors and the associative property when multiplying](#)
2. [Using the associative and distributive properties when multiplying](#)
3. [Using the distributive property when dividing](#)
4. [Multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000](#)
5. [Using common factors when dividing](#)

Measurement 1: Statistics, charts and graphs

Key mathematical ideas Invariants, Statistics, Scaling

Educational context

This activity group involves children working with data to calculate the mean, or average, of a set. This allows them to compare different groups of data within the same context, e.g. growing green beans. They move on to looking at estimated values in the context of packaging food, and how the mean is affected by different values in the set. They also consider ‘outliers’ and how they can skew an average to be higher or lower.

This activity group builds on the work on charts and graphs in the Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 5 Teaching Resource Handbook, Measurement 2.

Later in the activity group, children consider average speed and how to plot distance–time graphs to show speed. They extend this to plotting more data points for distance and time, and discuss how the gradient of the graph shows the speed.

These activities develop work in the Number, Pattern and Calculating 6 Teaching Resource Handbook, Pattern and Algebra 2, where children plot graphs showing fuel used and distance travelled, and discuss how this relates to speed.

Children then move on to combining work on angles, fractions and percentages with statistics where children are asked to construct and interpret pie charts. Children are encouraged to compare different methods of displaying data and highlight the usefulness of pie charts when viewing proportions.

In Activities 6–8, children learn about range and the different types of average: mean, mode, median, and that they are useful for different things. They compare the types of average and investigate which is most appropriate in a variety of situations.

Learning opportunities

- To become familiar with the mean as an average of a set of data.
- To know how to calculate the mean (sum of all data divided by the number of data points).
- To work with different units for speed and convert between them (e.g. m/s to km/h).
- To convert between metric and imperial units (kilometres and miles).
- To plot distance–time graphs and understand how they can be used to work out speed.
- To construct and interpret pie charts.
- To understand the differences between the types of average (mean, mode, median) and what they are useful for.

Terms for children to use

data, data set, survey, sample, sample size, value, maximum, minimum, range, spread, statistic, statistician, average, mean, outlier, skewing, central, rate, conversion, speed, metre, kilometre, mile, second, minute, hour, mode, median

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Calculate the mean from a given data set.
- Choose a suitable type of graph or chart for the purpose of their data set.
- Present, interpret and read data on distance–time graphs.
- Use distance–time graphs to calculate average speed.
- Construct pie charts and bar graphs correctly.
- Choose the most appropriate method for displaying data.
- Understand the differences between the different types of average.
- Know which type of average to use in different contexts.

GMS Milestone 1

- Calculate the mean average of a set of data (GMS 6:1e)
- Create, use and interpret conversion graphs (GMS 6:1f)
- Convert between metric and imperial speeds (GMS 6:1g)
- Construct and interpret pie charts to solve problems (GMS 6:1h)

Explorer Progress Book 6, pp. 2–3

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 4: Mean and Keen

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 4: Mean and Keen to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 14–17

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Introducing the mean](#)
2. [Using the mean](#)
3. [Understanding average speed](#)
4. [Converting between units of speed](#)
5. [Constructing and interpreting pie charts](#)
6. [A spoonful of peas](#)
7. [Tennis balls](#)
8. [A very average game](#)

Pattern and Algebra 1: Multiples, factors and primes

Key mathematical ideas Equivalence, Factors, Multiples, Primes, Composite numbers, Non-computational thinking, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

The purpose of this activity group is for children to become familiar and fluent with factor and multiple relationships between numbers. This will facilitate their work with numbers more generally, e.g. it can help with carrying out calculations involving fractions, linking to work in Numbers and the Number System 2, or working out 'long' multiplication or division calculations mentally, building on work from Calculating 2.

In particular, the activities introduce the idea of 'prime factorization' and its usefulness when finding lowest common multiples (LCMs) and highest common factors (HCFs).

Learning opportunities

- To identify multiples and factors, including finding all the factors of a given number.
- To identify prime numbers.
- To identify common multiples, including the lowest common multiple (LCM) of two or more numbers.
- To identify common factors, including the highest common factor (HCF) of two or more numbers.

Terms for children to use

multiple, common multiple, lowest common multiple, LCM, factor, factor pair, common factor, highest common factor, HCF, prime, prime number, composite number, prime factor, prime factorization, factor tree

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Can explain what a multiple and a factor of a number are, giving examples.
- Can explain what a common multiple and a common factor of two or more numbers are, giving examples.
- Can draw a factor tree and write a multiplication calculation to show the prime factors of a number.
- Work systematically to find common multiples and common factors of two or more numbers.
- Use prime factorization to identify the lowest common multiple (LCM) and highest common factor (HCF) of two or more numbers.

NPC Milestone 2

- Identify common factors, common multiples and prime numbers (NPC 6:2a)

Explorer Progress Book 6a, pp. 10–11

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 1: Factorize Square

After completing work on Activity 2, give children Explore More Copymaster 1: Factorize Square to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 18–21

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Exploring multiples and factors in number chains](#)
2. [Exploring prime factors using factor trees](#)
3. [Using factorization to help with multiplying and dividing](#)
4. [Solving problems by finding the lowest common multiple](#)
5. [Finding common factors, including the highest common factor](#)

Numbers and the Number System 2: Fractions

Key mathematical ideas Fractions, Equivalence, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

In this activity group children consolidate and extend their understanding of fractions. They use the technique of finding the lowest common multiple to produce fractions with a common denominator, and so compare and order them. They also use finding the highest common factor of two numbers in order to express fractions in their simplest form. In the final activity, they apply some of these ideas to explore comparing and ordering mixed numbers.

It is therefore important that children have a secure understanding of factors and multiples, as covered in Pattern and Algebra 1, before working on these activities.

Throughout, emphasize the relationship between fractions and proportions, and encourage children to spot patterns and to generalize about equivalent fractions, e.g. given that $\frac{7}{12} = \frac{14}{24}$, both fractions represent the same proportion ('7 out of every 12'), and the numerator and denominator of $\frac{14}{24}$ are both the same multiple (the second) of the numerator and denominator of $\frac{7}{12}$.

Learning opportunities

- To understand, recognize and generate equivalent proper fractions.
- To compare and order fractions and mixed numbers by using the lowest common multiple to express them in the same denomination.
- To use common factors to express fractions in their simplest form.
- To deepen understanding of factors and multiples.

Terms for children to use

fraction, proper fraction, improper fraction, mixed number, whole number, proportion, division, numerator, denominator, equivalent, lowest common multiple, LCM, highest common factor, HCF, prime factor, simplify, simplest form, greater than, less than, ascending, descending

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Can recognize and generate equivalent fractions, and explain why they are equivalent.
- Notice and can describe patterns within fraction families, e.g. $\frac{1}{4}, \frac{2}{8}, \frac{3}{12} \dots$
- Can compare and order fractions and mixed numbers by expressing them in the same denomination, using a common multiple of the denominators.
- Can simplify fractions using common factors.

NPC Milestone 2

- Compare and order fractions by expressing them as equivalent fractions with a common denominator (NPC 6:2b)

Explorer Progress Book 6a, pp. 12–13

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 6: Quiz Team Scores

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 6: Quiz Team Scores to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 22–25

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Comparing and ordering fractions with different denominators](#)
2. [Comparing and ordering proper fractions by finding a common denominator](#)
3. [Simplifying fractions](#)
4. [Comparing and ordering mixed numbers](#)

Calculating 3: Estimating, rounding and equivalence

Key mathematical ideas Counting, Place value, Equivalence, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

This activity group focuses on estimating and rounding while calculating. The activities also offer opportunities to reinforce children's understanding of measurement, in particular their appreciation that all measuring in everyday life is both approximate and purposeful. These two characteristics of measuring lead to the need always to work with measurements that are approximate to a degree that will serve the purposes of a given context and hence to the related activity of estimating and rounding with numbers.

Learning opportunities

- To round whole numbers to a required degree of accuracy, and decimal numbers to the nearest whole number, tenth or hundredth.
- To determine, in the context of a problem, an appropriate degree of accuracy.
- To solve puzzles and problems by estimating answers to calculations.
- To calculate mentally with large numbers and decimals.

Terms for children to use

rough, roughly, near, nearer, nearest, close, closer, closest, about, approximate, approximately, just over, just under, exact, exactly, equivalence, currency, exchange, too many, too few, enough, not enough, round up, round down, rounding, round number, rounded, to the nearest ...

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Can estimate the position of large numbers on a number line and round them to any required degree of accuracy, explaining in terms of place value.
- Choose a degree of accuracy for a calculation appropriate to a problem.
- Explain how rounding the numbers involved in a calculation will affect the answer, e.g. whether it will be an over- or underestimate.
- Can refine their calculations to improve the accuracy of an estimate.

NPC Milestone 2

- Use estimation to check answers to calculations (NPC 6:2c)
- Solve problems which require answers to be rounded to specified degrees of accuracy (NPC 6:2d)

Explorer Progress Book 6a, pp. 14–15

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 9: Holiday Money

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 9: Holiday Money to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 26–29

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Rounding](#)
2. [Using rounding to estimate quantities and costs](#)
3. [Using estimating and rounding with currency exchange](#)
4. [Using estimating and rounding when scaling up a recipe](#)
5. [Estimating costs](#)
6. [Using estimating to explore calculations](#)

Calculating 4: Column methods for adding and subtracting

Key mathematical ideas Adding, Subtracting, Place value, Equivalence, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

In this activity group children refine their understanding of written column methods for adding and subtracting, drawing on their understanding of place value. The activities build on methods used in the Number, Pattern and Calculating 5 Teaching Resource Handbook while also encouraging exploration and flexibility when calculating, including the introduction of an alternative, 'equal additions' method for subtracting. Children work with both whole numbers and decimals, making use of the contexts of mass and of money to help them calculate with and understand the numbers and methods they are using. The intention is to ensure that children feel confident with a range of methods for adding and subtracting, with the emphasis on formal written methods.

Throughout, encourage them to identify and use different calculation approaches flexibly, and to recognize the value of repeating a calculation by a different method, as a means of checking the answer. The numbers involved can be changed, as needed, in order to challenge children to vary and choose between strategies.

To help children develop fluency, understanding and accuracy in their calculating, take advantage of opportunities to revisit and apply their skills regularly in as wide a variety of contexts as possible. These opportunities might arise within other activity groups in Number, Pattern and Calculating 6 or the Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 6 Teaching Resource Handbook, in other curriculum areas, or as part of homework or additional practice.

Learning opportunities

- To recognize that there are a variety of different methods for adding and subtracting, and to choose appropriately between them in order to carry out and check calculations efficiently.
- To consolidate understanding of column methods for adding and subtracting.
- To use column methods of adding and subtracting confidently and efficiently, including with decimals.
- To use the 'equal additions' method of subtracting.
- To use the inverse relationship between adding and subtracting to check solutions and solve problems.

Terms for children to use

value, worth, place value, column value, quantity value, digit, column, decimal, decimal point, adding, plus, total, sum, subtracting, take away, difference, column method, mental method, jotting, bridging, complements, compensating, adjusting, partitioning, carrying, exchange, grouping, regrouping, redistribution, equal additions, recording, equivalence, balancing calculation, estimating, inverse, inverse operation

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Accurately give the column and quantity values of the digits in a number or measurement, including those after the decimal point.
- Review the numbers in an adding or subtracting calculation and choose an appropriate method of calculation, giving reasons for their choice.
- Check an adding or subtracting calculation using an appropriate method.
- Draw on known number facts to carry out calculations efficiently.
- Recognize from the numbers in a calculation when redistribution or carrying is needed.
- Add and subtract confidently and accurately with whole numbers and decimals using a written column method.
- Can explain that when the same amount is added to each number in a subtracting calculation ('equal additions') the answer stays the same, and can explain the equal additions method of subtracting in these terms.
- Can explain the inverse relationship between adding and subtracting and use it to solve problems and check calculations.

NPC Milestone 2

- Use column methods of adding and subtracting for larger numbers and decimals (NPC 6:2e)

Explorer Progress Book 6a, pp. 16–17

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 10: Balancing Act

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 10: Balancing Act to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 30–33

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Using the column method for adding, including decimals](#)
2. [Practising subtracting using a column method with redistribution](#)
3. [Introducing the column method of subtracting using 'equal additions'](#)
4. [Using column methods for adding and subtracting in numerical problem solving](#)

Calculating 5: Percentages

Key mathematical ideas Multiplicative thinking, Equivalence, Fractions, Ratio and proportion, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

This activity group focuses on using the language of percentage to describe and calculate proportions of some whole, and on percentage, common fraction and decimal equivalents. Key everyday contexts in which children encounter percentages involve money and measures, e.g. percentage discounts and special offers such as '50% extra free' or '25% bigger'. Other areas of the curriculum, e.g. geography and science, also offer plenty of relevant opportunities.

As children prepare for doing a range of routine calculations in a test environment, see Preparing for Formal Testing 4.

Learning opportunities

- To understand relationships between percentages, fractions and decimals.
- To express a simple proportion as a fraction with denominator 100, and convert it to percentage and decimal equivalents.
- To realize that percentages are useful for comparing proportions where the totals involved vary, e.g. 15 out of 20 and 35 out of 50 are more easily compared if they are expressed as 75% and 70%.
- To understand that percentages are also used as operators, to find quantities which represent particular proportions of a total quantity.
- To calculate simple percentages of quantities and to find new quantities following a percentage increase or decrease.
- To interpret and calculate with data presented in the form of percentages.

Terms for children to use

percentage, per cent, in every, for every, out of, proportion, hundredth, half, quarter, tenth, fraction, decimal, numerator, denominator, equivalent, simplify, discount, less, reduction, money off, more, bigger, extra

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Can give common fraction, percentage and decimal equivalents, e.g. $\frac{1}{2} = 50\% = 0.5$, $\frac{1}{10} = 10\% = 0.1$.
- Can explain how to convert between fractions, percentages and decimals with reference to expressing proportions 'out of 100'.
- Can explain that quantities can be compared as proportions (that is, without calculating the actual quantities) provided the total quantity is the same for each proportion.
- Can explain that proportions of different total quantities can be compared by expressing them 'out of' the same number, e.g. as percentages.
- Calculate simple percentages of quantities by using their relationship to equivalent fractions and dividing, e.g. calculate 50% as $\frac{1}{2}$ of a quantity by halving, 20% as $\frac{1}{5}$ by dividing by 5, 10% as $\frac{1}{10}$ by dividing by 10, 1% as $\frac{1}{100}$ by dividing by 100.
- Calculate other percentages of quantities based on their relationship to simple percentages, e.g. calculate 30% of a quantity by finding 10% then multiplying this quantity by 3, 6% by finding 5% and 1% and adding these quantities together.
- Can explain, following an increase or decrease, whether a quantity is greater or less than 100% of the original quantity, e.g. that following a 5% increase the new quantity is 105% of the original, or that following a 5% decrease it is 95% of the original.
- Can explain what data presented in the form of percentages shows.

NPC Milestone 2

- Understand, recall and use equivalences between simple fractions, decimals and percentages (NPC 6:2f)

Explorer Progress Book 6a, pp. 18–19

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 11: Supermarket Offers

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 11: Supermarket Offers to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 34–37

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Making connections between fractions, decimals and percentages](#)
2. [Using percentages to compare scores](#)
3. [Calculating simple percentage increases](#)
4. [Calculating simple percentage decreases](#)
5. [Exploring data involving percentages](#)

Geometry 1: 2D shapes and angles

Key mathematical ideas Angle, Rotation, Statistics, Communicating

Educational context

In this activity group children will be given the opportunity to build on their work from Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 5 Teaching Resource Handbook, Geometry 1 and 3, to explore the angle properties of polygons. They are reminded of the idea of interior and exterior angles, and have the opportunity to explore the sums of these angles to establish that, for example, the exterior angles of any polygon add up to 360° and the interior angles of any triangle add up to 180° .

They will be introduced to the concept of vertically opposite angles and use their growing understanding of angle relationships to solve 'missing angle' problems.

The activities allow children to develop their work on the properties of triangles and quadrilaterals. They are asked to follow instructions to draw different shapes and are encouraged first to visualize the results and make predictions. It is important to allow them plenty of time to think about, share and discuss the ideas involved, and to encourage them to make full use of available resources and persist in their explorations.

Learning opportunities

- To draw 2D shapes using given dimensions and angles.
- To compare and classify geometric shapes based on their properties and sizes.
- To identify angles that meet at a point, are on a straight line, or are vertically opposite.
- To calculate missing angles.
- To calculate unknown angles in any triangles, quadrilaterals, and regular polygons.

Terms for children to use

turn, angle, degree, clockwise, anticlockwise, vertically opposite angles, supplementary angles, equilateral triangle, scalene triangle, isosceles triangle, perimeter, quadrilateral, midpoint, bisect, dissect, diagonals, names of quadrilaterals, e.g. squares, oblongs, parallelograms, rhombuses, trapeziums, kites

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Explain that the equal angles in an isosceles triangle are opposite the equal sides, and that the smallest angle is opposite the shortest side.
- Explain that the opposite sides of a parallelogram must be equal in length for both pairs to be parallel, and that opposite angles in a parallelogram are equal.
- Illustrate the properties of 2D shapes by adding symbols and labels to diagrams, e.g. with 'single' or 'double' angle symbols, or the conventional symbols for parallel lines.
- Use their knowledge that vertically opposite angles are equal to find missing angles.

GMS Milestone 1

- Use formal notation to denote parallel, perpendicular and equal length lines in geometric diagrams (GMS 6:1a)
- Recognize and classify a wide range of 2D shapes based on their properties (GMS 6:1b)
- Calculate missing angles in polygons, along straight lines, around a point and that are vertically opposite (GMS 6:1c)
- Construct triangles and other polygons from given properties (GMS 6:1d)

Explorer Progress Book 6, pp. 4–5

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 1: Parallelogram Challenge

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 1: Parallelogram Challenge to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 38–41

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Constructing triangles](#)
2. [Exploring triangles](#)
3. [Exploring quadrilaterals](#)
4. [Exploring angles in regular polygons](#)
5. [Finding missing angles – introducing vertically opposite angles](#)

Calculating 6: Exploring calculations: multi-step non-routine problems and order of operations

Key mathematical ideas Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying, Dividing, Equivalence, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

In this activity group children use their knowledge and understanding of the four operations to solve multi-step non-routine problems involving large numbers and to explore the BODMAS conventional order of tackling operations in multi-operation expressions. They encounter a range of problems designed to encourage them to draw on their problem-solving and calculating skills to make decisions for themselves, both about strategy – that is, choosing which steps to take and which calculations to carry out – and about methods – in particular whether to calculate mentally or with jottings, or to use a formal written method or calculator. As part of this work they are asked to apply their knowledge of a range of mathematical ideas, including fractions, decimals and percentages, ratio and proportion, rounding and estimating, and area.

Children also have the opportunity in this activity group to investigate the effect of order of operations on the results of calculations. In this context they are introduced to the conventional BODMAS rules which enable us to determine that the result of the calculation written as '5 + 3 × 4' (for example) is conventionally 17, rather than 32. They demonstrate that some calculators do not follow this convention and need to be used with care. Before starting the activity group, it is important that children are fluent in recalling and using number facts and comfortable with a variety of methods of calculating. Throughout, encourage them to try out different problem-solving approaches for themselves, and to consider a variety of strategies and methods for calculating and verifying solutions; allow plenty of time for discussion. The activity group works as a whole, so it is also important that children carry out Activity 1 before Activities 2 and 3 as the following activities use information from work in Activity 1.

Learning opportunities

- To choose appropriate strategies and methods of calculating in order to solve multi-step problems.
- To appreciate the need to work systematically when solving multi-step problems.
- To understand the importance of checking that solutions make sense and are accurate.
- To understand and be able to apply the conventional rules for the order of operations to carry out calculations involving more than one operation, brackets and square or cube numbers, e.g. $(2 + 6) \times (32 - 12) = 160$.
- To understand that some calculators do not follow the rules for the order of operations.

Terms for children to use

problem solving, strategy, method, estimating, rounding, inverse, mental/written calculating method, costs, overheads, income, profit, loss, average, predicted, operation, order of operations, squaring, cubing, powers

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Make reasoned decisions about strategy and work systematically to solve multi-step problems.
- Identify the calculations needed to solve multi-step problems.
- Calculate efficiently using appropriate mental or written strategies.
- Use estimating to check that the results of calculations are reasonable.
- Use the inverse calculation to check that an answer is correct.
- Use knowledge of the conventional order of operations to carry out calculations involving more than one operation, also square and cube numbers.
- Know that brackets can be used to indicate that part of a calculation should be carried out first.

NPC Milestone 3

- Use the BODMAS convention for order of operations to solve problems (NPC 6:3a)

Explorer Progress Book 6a, pp. 20–23

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance. Children will also have the opportunity to complete their Learning Log (pp. 22–23) where they can reflect on the mathematics they have done so far.

Explore More Copymaster 12: Which Order?

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 12: Which Order? to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 42–45

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Solving multi-step problems](#)
2. [More multi-step problems](#)
3. [Introducing the BODMAS convention for the order of operations](#)
4. [Exploring the order of operations](#)
5. [Using the BODMAS convention order of operations to solve problems](#)

Calculating 7: Ratio and proportion

Key mathematical ideas Fractions, Equivalence, Order, Ratio, Multiplicative thinking, Dimension, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

The aim of this activity group is to encourage children to reason about, manipulate and calculate confidently with ratios and proportions, and also to introduce the conventional ratio notation of $a:b$. The work also draws on and promotes children's problem-solving more generally, with tasks which require them to understand and make use of their understanding of ratio and proportion in a variety of contexts. It is important that children are able to distinguish between ratio and proportion. Their use of visual and physical illustration is crucial here: encourage them throughout to explore the different ways in which they can represent part-to-part and part-to-whole relationships, using apparatus and imagery of their choice. In Activities 1 and 3, the use of ratio and proportion in relation to physical (spatial) dimensions requires careful illustration. In Activity 4 a pie chart provides a key illustration of proportions that remain constant within a varying 'whole' which is central to children's introduction to the idea of a statistical sample.

Learning opportunities

- To identify ratios and record them using conventional notation, e.g. 1:2.
- To identify proportions and express them as fractions or percentages.
- To solve problems involving ratio and proportion using integer multiplying and dividing facts.
- To solve scaling problems involving similar shapes.
- To solve problems involving unequal sharing.

Terms for children to use

ratio, proportion, ... in every ... , ... for every ... , ... to every ... , equivalent, in proportion, out of proportion, part, part-to-part relationship, part-to-whole relationship, rate, per, shape, similar, congruent, dimensions, scale, scale up, scale down, scale factor, equivalent fractions, simplify

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Can describe and explain patterns and relationships when exploring ratios and proportions.
- Can describe a relationship in terms both of ratio and proportion, e.g. 'the ratio of green to blue cubes is two to one', 'two out of every three cubes are green'.
- Read and express equivalent ratios, e.g. 4:2 and 2:1, by identifying common factors.
- Apply their knowledge of multiplying and dividing facts to solve problems involving scaling, similar shapes and unequal sharing.
- Can explain in simple terms how survey data can be used to draw conclusions or make predictions.

NPC Milestone 3

- Solve problems involving unequal sharing and grouping using knowledge of fractions and multiples (NPC 6:3c)
- Recognize proportionality in contexts when the relations between quantities are in the same ratio (NPC 6:3d)

Explorer Progress Book 6b, pp. 2–3

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 13: Making Medicines

After completing work on Activity 2, give children Explore More Copymaster 13: Making Medicines to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 46–49

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Exploring ratio and proportion](#)
2. [Solving problems using ratio and proportion](#)
3. [Solving geometric scaling problems](#)
4. [Making use of data](#)
5. [Solving problems involving unequal sharing](#)

Measurement 2: Areas of 2D shapes

Key mathematical ideas Transformation, Rotation, Reflection, Area, Communicating

Educational context

The activities in this activity group build on work with triangles and quadrilaterals from Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 6 Teaching Resource Handbook, Geometry 1. They also extend the work on area from Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 5 Teaching Resource Handbook, Measurement 3 and 5 to calculate the areas of triangles and parallelograms. In addition, children can consolidate learning about transformations from Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 5 Teaching Resource Handbook, Geometry 3. In each activity, children are encouraged to describe the properties of each 2D shape and generalize about their findings. Children are guided to summarize the relationships they investigate, leading them to understand where it is possible to use a formula to calculate the area of shapes. They then put the formula to use in solving practical problems.

Learning opportunities

- To describe the movements of shapes using the language of transformations.
- To compare and classify geometric shapes based on their properties and sizes.
- To calculate the areas of parallelograms and triangles.
- To recognize that shapes with the same areas can have different perimeters and vice versa.
- To find the areas of composite shapes.
- To recognize when it is possible to use formulae for calculating the areas of shapes.

Terms for children to use

reflection, rotation, translation, enlargement, similar, congruent, parallel, perpendicular, side, vertex, vertices, angle, diagonal, midpoint, dimensions, length, width, height, base, altitude, area, conservation of area, dissection, formula, area of a triangle equals half base times height, area of a parallelogram equals base times height, composite shape, units of area (e.g. square inch, square mile, square millimetre)

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Describe the transformations they use to construct shapes.
- Suggest splitting shapes into two or more smaller shapes to find and total their areas.
- Can show how different shapes may have the same area.
- Explain that whichever base and height pair in a triangle they choose to use, the formula will result in the same area.
- Estimate to help them predict and check their results.

GMS Milestone 2

- Use formulae to find the area of triangles (area = $\frac{1}{2} \times b \times h$) and parallelograms (area = $b \times h$) and understand why they work (GMS 6:2a)
- Find the area of composite shapes by partitioning into triangles and/or rectangles (GMS 6:2b)

Explorer Progress Book 6, pp. 6–7

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 5: Triangle Area Match

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 5: Triangle Area Match to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 50–53

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Using tangrams to explore conservation of area and dissection of shapes](#)
2. [Finding the area of a right-angled triangle](#)
3. [Finding the area of any triangle](#)
4. [Finding the area of a parallelogram](#)
5. [Solving problems by finding the area of composite shapes](#)

Calculating 8: Converting fractions and decimals

Key mathematical ideas Equivalence, Fractions, Place value, Decimals, Multiplicative thinking, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

This activity group is designed to deepen children's understanding of fractions and provide them with the opportunity to discover and explore common fraction and decimal equivalents. The activities build on children's previous work on finding fractions of a whole and fractions of a set, as well as the relationship between fractions and division.

The activity group begins with children exploring real-life scenarios of using fractions as a division process, that is, that 35 is equivalent to $3 \div 5$. The activities then progress to enable children to develop an understanding of how to convert any fraction into a decimal using division and their knowledge of equivalent fractions. In the final activity children have the opportunity to use this knowledge and understanding to calculate with fractions and decimal fractions.

Success with this work requires children to have an understanding of decimal place value, including rounding and a range of strategies to divide. Children will also need to be confident in adding and subtracting decimals.

The activities make links with measures and children need to be secure with converting standard units of measure.

As children prepare for doing a range of routine calculations in a test environment, see Preparing for Formal Testing 4.

Learning opportunities

- To associate fractions with division and use this relationship to calculate decimal equivalents of common fractions.
- To recall common fraction and decimal fraction equivalents.
- To understand that common fractions have either terminating or recurring decimal equivalents.
- To add fractions by converting them to decimal equivalents.
- To understand the equivalence relations between fractions.
- To convert between common units of measurement.
- To develop understanding of decimal place value and multiplying and dividing by 1000.
- To consolidate rounding skills and round to a given number of decimal places.

Terms for children to use

common fraction, proper fraction, numerator, denominator, decimal fraction, decimal, decimal point, decimal place, terminating/recurring/repeating decimal, divide, share equally, equal parts, whole, equivalent, measurement, unit, estimate, approximation, accurate, precise, convert, round

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Demonstrate and explain an understanding of fractions as the result of dividing a whole into equal parts.
- Notice the relationship of equivalence between, e.g. fifths and tenths, and use this to identify decimal equivalents.
- Recognize that the decimal equivalent of a common fraction can be calculated by dividing the numerator by the denominator, e.g. $25 = 2 \div 5$.
- Recognize that the decimal equivalent of a non-unit fraction (e.g. 25) can be calculated by multiplying the unit fraction decimal equivalent, e.g. as $15 = 0.2$ then $25 = 0.2 \times 2$.
- Make sensible conjectures about decimal fraction equivalents of common fractions.
- Notice that the decimal equivalents of some common fractions contain recurring patterns of digits.
- Use efficient dividing strategies.
- Demonstrate an understanding of place value when calculating.
- Can recall an increasing range of common fraction and decimal fraction equivalents.

NPC Milestone 3

- Convert simple fractions to decimal fractions by dividing (NPC 6:3e)

Explorer Progress Book 6b, pp. 4–5

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 14: Birdseed

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 14: Birdseed to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 54–57

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Exploring the relationship between common fractions and dividing](#)
2. [Making connections between fractions and decimals – fifths](#)
3. [Making connections between fractions and decimals – eighths](#)
4. [Making connections between fractions and decimals – recurring decimals](#)
5. [Adding fraction and decimal equivalents](#)

Pattern and Algebra 2: Exploring number sequences and relationships

Key mathematical ideas Generalizing, Pattern, Function, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

This activity group explores a variety of different types of number sequences, with the aim of encouraging children to think about number relationships carefully and to be prepared to consider many different ways of generating sequences. This lays important foundations for children's later exploration of functions (although that term is not used here).

Of particular importance at this stage are linear number sequences and their graphical illustration as straight lines. There are strong connections with work on line graphs in the Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 5 and 6 Teaching Resource Handbooks, and this is picked up in Activity 1, where children are asked to use a line graph to 'interpolate' values. As children explore the various sequences, encourage them to generalize and to show and describe the number relationships they find by emphasizing both illustration and algebraic expression of these relationships. In particular, encourage them to identify and consider the connections between the term- to-term rule for a sequence and the global rule or 'formula' which can be used to describe any term.

Learning opportunities

- To generate and describe number sequences, including linear number sequences.
- To link a simple rate with a linear number sequence, formula and line graph.
- To investigate and explain relationships in number sequences and puzzles.
- To express general relationships and rules for number sequences algebraically.

Terms for children to use

sequence, term, term-to-term rule, global/general rule, constant difference, interval, step, formula, expression, equation, equivalent, algebra, algebraic, rate, line graph, linear, straight line, slope, gradient, ordinal number words (e.g. first, second, third), initial term, repeat, cycle, proof, square number, squaring, general rule, nth term

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Identify and use a constant difference to continue a linear sequence.
- Draw a line graph to illustrate a linear relationship between variables.
- Explain how a constant difference in a linear sequence relates to a line graph for the sequence.
- Can describe and begin to explain relationships in the digits or terms of a number sequence.
- Work systematically to explore number sequences and find patterns from which they can identify general rules.
- Can write a general rule for finding any term in a number sequence by using letters to stand for numbers.
-

NPC Milestone 3

- Generate and describe linear number sequences including expressing term to term and general rules of number patterns (NPC 6:3b)

Explorer Progress Book 6b, pp. 6–7

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 2: Number Chain Detective

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 2 Number Chain Detective to take home

Pupil Book 6, pp. 58–61

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Exploring links between linear sequences, rates and straight-line graphs](#)
2. [Exploring patterns in decimal number sequences](#)
3. [Investigating number chains](#)
4. [Investigating arrow diagrams](#)
5. [Describing growing patterns with algebra](#)

Measurement 3: 3D shapes – nets and surface area

Key mathematical ideas Area, Communicating, Angle, Working in 2D and 3D

Educational context

This group of activities introduces children to nets, with the focus being on helping the children to visualize and illustrate how the 2D net and 3D shape relate to one another. They examine nets of regular and non-regular 3D polyhedra. Activity 3 then enables children to put their knowledge of nets to work to solve a practical problem. This activity group builds on the work on angles from Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 5 Teaching Resource Handbook, Geometry 3, Activities 4–5. The work on surface area builds on Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 5 Teaching Resource Handbook, Measurement 5, Activity 2, Step 6.

Learning opportunities

- To recognize, describe and build simple 3D shapes.
- To make nets for 3D shapes.
- To explore how many nets are possible for different 3D shapes.
- To recognize some properties of the five Platonic solids.
- To calculate the surface area of 3D shapes.
- To convert between standard units, converting measurements of length and volume from a smaller unit of measure to a larger unit, and vice versa, using decimal notation to up to three decimal places.

Terms for children to use

2D, 3D, similar, congruent, reflection, rotation, face, edge, vertex, vertices, dimensions, length, width, breadth, height, net, polygon, polyhedron, regular polygon, regular polyhedron, tetrahedron, cube, octahedron, dodecahedron, icosahedron, surface area, cuboid, pyramid, prism, Platonic solid

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Explain and illustrate how a 2D net and 3D shape relate.
- Systematically explore all options for creating nets.
- Can convert between standard units of 1, 2 or 3 dimensions, e.g. length, area and volume.

GMS Milestone 2

- Recognize and create nets of cubes (GMS6:2c)
- Create nets of cuboids and prisms (GMS6:2d)
- Use nets to calculate surface area (GMS6:2e)

Explorer Progress Book 6, pp. 8–9

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 6: Which Box?

After completing work on Activity 2, give children Explore More Copymaster 6: Which Box? to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 62–65

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Introducing nets – finding nets of a cube](#)
2. [Investigating nets and regular and irregular polyhedra](#)
3. [Solving problems involving surface area and nets](#)

Calculating 9: Written column methods of multiplying

Key mathematical ideas Multiplying, Place value, Inverse, Equivalence, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

In this activity group children build on their knowledge and understanding of multiplication to solve problems. They continue to practise formal written methods of short and long multiplication, consolidating the skills learned in the Number, Pattern and Calculating 4 and 5 Teaching Resource Handbooks, and developing them further through work with larger numbers and decimals. In the final activity, children apply these skills in order to solve missing number problems that require them to reason mathematically and work systematically.

Support children by providing regular opportunities for review and practice of related basic skills and ideas, in particular times tables facts, place value and multiplying and dividing by powers of 10. Throughout, emphasize the importance of estimating before calculating as a means of predicting and checking the reasonableness of answers.

As children prepare for doing a range of routine calculations in a test environment, see Preparing for Formal Testing 3, Activities 2 and 4.

Learning opportunities

- To consolidate and deepen understanding of place value, to at least three decimal places.
- To multiply and divide by powers of 10 fluently, understanding the effect in terms of place value.
- To use the short written method for multiplying, including for calculations involving large numbers and decimals.
- To use the long written method for multiplying (up to 4-digits \times 2-digits), including for calculations involving decimals.
- To use rounding and estimating skills to predict and check the reasonableness of the results of multiplying calculations.
- To understand when and how to use multiplying to solve problems in a range of contexts, including measures.

Terms for children to use

multiply, multiplication, times, lots of, multiplying sentence, short method, long method, written method, mental method, estimating, rounding, nearest, predict, check, place value, digit, column value, quantity value, decimal point, decimal fraction, decimal number, whole number, partitioning, carrying, grouping, regrouping, names of units of measure and money (e.g. litre, kilogram, pounds, pence)

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Use rounding skills and knowledge of multiplying facts to give sensible estimates of the answers to multiplying calculations.
- Use understanding of place value to help multiply with decimal numbers.
- Accurately multiply whole and decimal numbers by 1-digit numbers using the short written method of multiplying.
- Accurately multiply whole and decimal numbers by 2-digit numbers using the long written method of multiplying.
- Can describe and explain the steps involved in carrying out a multiplying calculation using the long written method.
- Can identify and explain errors in multiplying calculations.

NPC Milestone 4

- Use short and long multiplying and dividing to solve problems, including those involving decimals (NPC 6:4a)

Explorer Progress Book 6b, pp. 8–9

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 15: Ticket Sales

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 15: Ticket Sales to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 66–69

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Multiplying large numbers using the short written method](#)
2. [Multiplying decimals using the short written method](#)
3. [Understanding and practising long multiplication \(HTO \$\times\$ TO, ThHTO \$\times\$ TO\)](#)
4. [Multiplying decimals using long multiplication](#)
5. [Using understanding of long multiplication in problem solving](#)

Calculating 10: Introducing long written methods of dividing

Key mathematical ideas Dividing, Place value, Fractions, Decimals, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

This activity group focuses on formal written methods of dividing. Children begin by considering two different ways of understanding division: sharing (partition, or finding how many in each of a given number of parts) and grouping (quotition, or finding how many parts of a given size; this involves repeated subtracting, or the method formerly known as 'chunking'). As part of this they make links to their work in Calculating 8 on converting fractions to decimals by dividing.

Children review the short written method of dividing – recalling work in the Number, Pattern and Calculating 5 Teaching Resource Handbook – to divide whole numbers with up to 4 digits by whole numbers with up to 2 digits within their times table facts (that is, $\text{ThHTU} \div \text{TU}$ where TU is 11 or 12). Where there is a remainder, they consider whether to round the result up or down based on the problem context.

They are also introduced to two long written methods of dividing as ways of approaching more demanding calculations involving 2- digit divisors for which they cannot easily recall multiplying facts. These methods reflect the sharing and grouping structures, respectively, and the emphasis here is on understanding how they work, with children being encouraged to develop mental 'patters' which explain the steps involved. Children extend their understanding of remainders to these more complex calculations, interpreting the context in order to determine whether to express remainders as whole numbers, fractions or decimals. The final activity focuses on dividing decimals by whole numbers.

To help ensure their success in this activity group, children should have a thorough knowledge of times tables and a secure understanding of place value. Throughout, encourage them to use the apparatus and imagery of their choice to support their thinking and discussion. Also help them to recognize the usefulness of estimating as a way of checking their results are reasonable and of using the inverse operation to provide an exact check.

As children prepare for doing long division in a test environment, see Preparing for Formal Testing 3, Activity 1.

Learning opportunities

- To consolidate understanding of the short method of dividing and extend it to carry out calculating with 2- digit divisors, e.g. 11, 25.
- To use two long written methods of dividing.
- To be able to choose between short and long methods of dividing, as appropriate.
- To interpret remainders appropriately according to the context, rounding up or down or expressing the remainder as a fraction or decimal.
- To use estimating and inverse calculating to check dividing.

Terms for children to use

short/long method of dividing, sharing, grouping, place value, digit, partition, exchange, inverse, estimate, round, remainder, fraction, decimal, common factor, simplify, simplest form, dividend, divisor, product, multiple, factor

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Use the short method of dividing to solve problems efficiently.
- Use the two long methods of dividing, explaining steps clearly.
- Explain/describe dividing in terms of the sharing or grouping structure (as appropriate).
- Review numbers when dividing to decide whether to use the short or long (or a mental) method.
- Use estimating to predict and check the reasonableness of the results of dividing.
- Identify the inverse of dividing and use it to check answers.
- Interpret a remainder correctly according to the context, rounding the result up or down or expressing the remainder as a fraction or decimal.
- Use understanding of common factors to express a remainder as a fraction in its simplest form.
- Continue the short or long method of dividing beyond the decimal point, to express a remainder as a decimal fraction.
- Divide decimals by whole numbers using the short and long methods of dividing.

NPC Milestone 4

- Use short and long multiplying and dividing to solve problems, including those involving decimals (NPC6:4a)

Explorer Progress Book 6b, pp. 10–11

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 16: Grouping

After completing work on Activity 4, give children Explore More Copymaster 16: Grouping to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 70–73

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Dividing in context – the sharing and grouping structures](#)
2. [Introducing the long written method of dividing – sharing structure](#)
3. [Introducing the long written method of dividing – grouping structure](#)
4. [Developing the long written method of dividing for grouping](#)
5. [Developing the long written method of dividing for sharing, and expressing remainders as fractions when sharing or grouping](#)
6. [Expressing remainders as decimals when sharing or grouping](#)
7. [Dividing decimals by whole numbers](#)

Measurement 4: Volume and scaling

Key mathematical ideas Length, Area, Volume and capacity, Working in 2D and 3D, Scaling

Educational context

This activity group builds on the work on capacity and volume from the Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 4 Teaching Resource Handbook, Measurement 5, and extends the work on solid and liquid volume from Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 5 Teaching Resource Handbook, Measurement 4.

As with the work on area in Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 6, Measurement 2, children are encouraged to discover a formula for calculating volume, which they then put to use in solving practical problems.

In Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 5 Teaching Resource Handbook, Measurement 4, Activity 4, children developed an understanding of the equivalence between cubic centimetres and millilitres and converted between millilitres or litres and cubic centimetres. They can use this understanding for the work with cubic millimetres, metres and kilometres in this activity group.

The later activities continue work with scaling, and the effect of scaling on length and area. For support with identifying equivalent ratios, refer to the Number, Pattern and Calculating 6 Teaching Resource Handbook, Calculating 7.

The work in this activity group is demanding with plenty of hard thinking for children. Allow plenty of time for discussion and reflection.

Learning opportunities

- To calculate, estimate and compare the volumes of cubes and cuboids using standard units, including cubic centimetres (cm^3) and cubic metres (m^3), and extending to other units, e.g. mm^3 and km^3 .
- To explore and relate different units of volume.
- To recognize when it is possible to use formulae to calculate volumes of shapes.
- To solve problems involving calculating with, and converting between, units of measure and using decimal notation up to three decimal places.
- To investigate the effect of scaling on the lengths, surface areas and volumes of shapes.

Terms for children to use

length, millimetres, centimetres, metres, kilometres, area, square millimetres/centimetres/metres/kilometres, volume, cubic millimetres/centimetres/metres, cubic kilometres, millilitres, litres, dimensions, one-/two-/three-dimensional, width, height, formula, equation, orientation, square/cube numbers, scale, scale factor, enlarge, reduce, ratio, proportion

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Can explain how to calculate the volume of a cuboid and that the three dimensions can be multiplied in any order.
- Know that 1 cm^3 is a measurement of solid volume and is equal to 1 ml, the liquid volume equivalent.
- Can compile a list of equivalences for metric units of length, area and volume.

GMS Milestone 3

- Carry out calculations involving lengths and volumes of cubes and other cuboids, using formulae where appropriate (GMS 6:3a)
- Convert between different metric units of volume (GMS 6:3b)
- Use and understand the effects of scaling on area and volume (GMS 6:3c)

Explorer Progress Book 6, pp. 10–11

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 7: Curious Cuboids

After completing work on Activity 2, give children Explore More Copymaster 7: Curious Cuboids to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 74–77

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Identifying a formula for calculating the volume of a cuboid](#)
2. [Solving problems using understanding of the volume of a cuboid](#)
3. [Exploring units of volume](#)
4. [Understanding scaling and similar shapes](#)
5. [Investigating the effect of scaling on length and area](#)

Calculating 11: Adding and subtracting with fractions

Key mathematical ideas Equivalence, Fractions, Adding, Subtracting, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

In this activity group children add and subtract fractions where one denominator is not a multiple of the other. This builds on their work in Numbers and the Number System 2, where they found common multiples and used understanding of equivalent fractions to express fractions in the same denomination, and hence compare and order them. Ensure that children are confident with these ideas before moving on to calculate with fractions.

Children begin by revisiting adding and subtracting common fractions totalling a whole, and fractions where one denominator is a multiple of the other, in order to reinforce their understanding of the relationship between fractions and whole numbers, and of equivalent fractions. They then progress to adding and subtracting fractions by finding the lowest common multiple of the denominators, and make links with fractions of amounts. As part of this work, children have opportunities to simplify fractions, work with improper fractions and mixed numbers, and solve increasingly complex problems, with the aim of becoming confident and fluent when working with fractions. As children prepare for adding and subtracting fractions in a test environment, see Preparing for Formal Testing 4, Activity 2.

Learning opportunities

- To use common multiples and understanding of equivalent fractions to express fractions in the same denomination.
- To understand that fractions need to be in the same denomination before adding or subtracting.
- To add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers.
- To use common factors to simplify fractions.
- To apply knowledge and understanding of fractions to solve problems.
- To make connections between finding fractions of amounts and calculating with fractions.

Terms for children to use

equal parts, whole, part–whole relationship, numerator, denominator, proper fraction, improper fraction, mixed number, whole number, equivalent, lowest common multiple, LCM, simplify, simplest form, multiple, factor, proportion, array

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Can recognize common fraction equivalents.
- Understand that fractions need to be in the same denomination before adding or subtracting.
- Can explain fraction equivalences and calculating involving fractions, illustrating with structured apparatus or imagery.
- Convert, and explain equivalences, between improper fractions and mixed numbers.
- Can use an array to support and illustrate adding fractions.
- Can identify common factors in the numerator and denominator, and use these to express a fraction in its simplest form.
- Apply knowledge and understanding of fractions to solve problems.

NPC Milestone 4

- Add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers (NPC 6:4b)

Explorer Progress Book 6b, pp. 12–13

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 17: Weekly Activities

After completing work on Activity 4, give children Explore More Copymaster 17: Weekly Activities to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 78–81

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Revisiting adding and subtracting fractions](#)
2. [Adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers whose denominators are multiples of the same number](#)
3. [Reasoning about fractions when solving problems](#)
4. [Adding and subtracting fractions whose denominators are not multiples of the same number](#)
5. [Using arrays to support calculating with fractions](#)

Calculating 12: Multiplying and dividing with fractions

Key mathematical ideas Multiplying, Dividing, Equivalence, Fractions, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

In this activity group children build on their work in Numbers and the Number System 2 and Calculating 11 on understanding and adding and subtracting with fractions, and extend it to multiplying and dividing with fractions.

They begin by exploring multiplying by a fraction, further developing their understanding of fractions as operators (that is, as mathematical objects in their own right), in particular through the idea of a 'fraction machine'. They are challenged to generalize to discover and explain for themselves a rule for multiplying two fractions together. They go on to consider dividing a proper fraction by a whole number, and again have the opportunity to identify and explain a general rule.

Throughout the activity group, support children to use resources and imagery to represent fractions in a variety of ways in order to help them explore, share and consolidate their understanding. Encourage them to talk through their ideas and explain their solutions, allowing plenty of time for discussion throughout. Some of the activities involve a number of linked steps.

Approaching them over several sessions will help to ensure that children have time to understand, explore and consolidate the ideas involved.

As children prepare for multiplying and dividing fractions in a test environment, see Preparing for Formal Testing 4, Activity 3.

Learning opportunities

- To make connections between multiplying by a fraction, using a fraction as an operator, and dividing.
- To multiply simple pairs of proper fractions.
- To divide proper fractions by whole numbers.
- To identify patterns and hence general rules about multiplying and dividing with fractions.

Terms for children to use

common fraction, proper fraction, improper fraction, unit fraction, numerator, denominator, equivalent, simplify, common factor, cancel, fraction of a fraction (e.g. one third of one quarter), grouping, sharing, repeated adding/subtracting, pattern, general rule, ratio, constant, scaling

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Can use a variety of resources and imagery to illustrate and reason about multiplying and dividing with fractions.
- Notice patterns and generalize to suggest rules for multiplying with fractions.
- Can describe and explain a general rule for multiplying a pair of fractions.
- Can identify whether a fraction is in its simplest form, and, if not, can express it in its simplest form by dividing the numerator and denominator by common factors.
- Use understanding of the sharing structure of dividing to help explain dividing a fraction by a whole number.
- Link dividing a fraction by a whole number with multiplying by a fraction.

NPC Milestone 4

- Multiply simple pairs of proper fractions (NPC 6:4c)
- Divide proper fractions by whole numbers (NPC 6:4d)

Explorer Progress Book 6b, pp. 14–15

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 18: Yoghurt Robot

After completing work on Activity 2, give children Explore More Copymaster 18: Yoghurt Robot to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 82–85

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Multiplying two fractions](#)
2. [Multiplying two fractions using a fraction machine](#)
3. [Multiplying two fractions using a general rule](#)
4. [Dividing a proper fraction by a whole number](#)

Pattern and Algebra 3: Using algebra to solve problems

Key mathematical ideas Reasoning, Problem solving, Algebra, Equivalence, Arithmetic operations, Patterns in using the four operations, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

The overall purpose of this activity group is to introduce children to the use of algebraic notation in solving problems. The essential aim is for children to get used to the idea of representing problems in algebraic terms and finding solutions by manipulating those terms. Children progress from the use of familiar 'empty box' notation to the use of letters of the alphabet to represent an unknown value (or values). In Activity 2 letters (technically called 'variables') are introduced to represent unknown values, or 'unknowns', and in subsequent activities we develop the use of letters in this way to solve various problems. It will be increasingly important for children to distinguish this use of letters in problem solving from the other major use of letters in algebra (addressed in Pattern and Algebra 2), which is to generalize about relationships. When we write something such as ' $x + y = 62$ ' (see Activity 2) we are using x and y to represent unknown amounts. When we write ' $A = l \times b$ ' as the formula for the area of a rectangle we are using letters to generalize, and to claim that for any rectangle, whatever its dimensions, area is related to length and breadth as their product. This activity group is particularly concerned with using letters to represent unknown amount(s), and introducing children to the helpfulness of representing problems involving unknown amounts with letters.

Learning opportunities

- To express and solve missing number problems algebraically.
- To find pairs of numbers that satisfy an equation with two unknowns.
- To find all the possible combinations of two variables or unknowns.

Terms for children to use

algebra, algebraic, notation, symbol, solution, systematic, efficient, reasoning, strategy, logical, infinite, finite, operation, inverse, positive, negative, whole number, equivalent, fraction, term, expression, equation, unknown, general, generalize, simplify, possibilities

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the words and terms for use in conversation effectively.
- Can describe a relationship between numbers.
- Can represent a relationship between numbers algebraically.
- Use conventional algebraic notation, e.g. $3a$ to indicate $3 \times a$.
- Identify whether an equation has one or many possible solutions.
- Can solve an equation and explain their reasoning.
- Work systematically to find all possible solutions to an equation.
- Can express and solve problems algebraically.

NPC Milestone 4

- Express missing number problems algebraically (NPC 6:4e)
- Enumerate possibilities of combinations of two unknowns (NPC 6:4f)

Explorer Progress Book 6b, pp. 16–17

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 3: Making Shortbread

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 3: Making Shortbread to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 86–89

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Exploring empty box problems](#)
2. [Using symbols and letters to express missing numbers](#)
3. [Solving problems using algebra](#)
4. [More problem solving with algebra](#)
5. [Finding all possibilities for two variables](#)

Geometry 2: Circles

Key mathematical ideas Invariants, Statistics, Scaling

Educational context

The activities in this activity group build on children's previous work on 2D shapes, consolidating and extending their understanding of circles.

Children are introduced to the parts of the circle, the radius, diameter and circumference, and the activities allow them to examine the relationship between these different parts.

Through exploration and discussion children find a formula to show the relationship between the diameter d and radius r of a circle.

Through investigation, children recognize that the circumference is always a little more than 3 times the diameter; that is, the ratio of circumference to diameter is approximately 3:1 and that this important mathematical ratio is the same for any circle. Later activities in the group enable children to use pi (π) to solve practical problems.

Learning opportunities

- To use compasses to draw circles.
- To name parts of circles, including radius, diameter and circumference.
- To know that the diameter is twice the radius.
- To investigate the constant relationship between the circumference and the diameter.

Terms for children to use

circle, centre, circumference, diameter, radius, sector, circular, semicircle, compasses, point, equidistant, curve, polygon, non-polygon, congruent, similar, angle, turn, symmetry, constant, approximation, accuracy, precision, variation, error, data, sample, sample size, mean

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Describe the properties of a circle, e.g. it is a 2D shape, but not a polygon.
- Can write a formula to show that the diameter is twice the length of the radius.
- Explain that the angle at the centre of a circle is one full turn or 360° .
- Understand that the circumference of a circle is always a little more than three times the length of the diameter.

GMS Milestone 3

- Recognize and name the radius, diameter and circumference of any circle (GMS6:3d)
- Recognize that the diameter of any circle is twice the radius (GMS6:3e)

Explorer Progress Book 6, pp. 12–13

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 2: Easy as Pie

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 2: Easy as Pie to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 90–93

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Understanding the parts and properties of a circle](#)
2. [Investigating the relationship between circumference and diameter](#)
3. [Using the relationship between circumference and diameter](#)
4. [Solving problems using the relationship between circumference and diameter](#)

Calculating 13: Solving non-routine problems using all four operations

Key mathematical ideas Adding, Subtracting, Multiplying, Dividing, Equivalence, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

This activity group brings together children's learning from throughout the Calculating strand, giving them the opportunity to explore and make choices about calculating strategies and methods in a variety of non-routine problem-solving contexts. The activities require children to calculate with whole numbers, decimals, fractions and percentages; they also draw on children's understanding of measurement, including converting between different units. It is important to ensure

that children are confident with these ideas and skills before beginning the activity group.

Throughout, encourage children to decide for themselves how best to approach the problems, and to consider a variety of strategies and methods for calculating and verifying solutions. To help them develop understanding, accuracy and fluency in carrying out mental and written calculations in order to solve problems, provide plenty of opportunities for them to use, discuss, revisit and vary these techniques in as wide a variety of contexts as possible.

Learning opportunities

- To solve non-routine problems involving more than one step and more than one operation, identifying the calculations involved.
- To use mental and formal written methods of calculating.
- To estimate the answers to calculations by rounding and calculating mentally.
- To use equivalences to convert inches to centimetres and draw on other familiar metric conversions to solve problems.

Terms for children to use

calculating strategy, calculating method, short/long written method of multiplying/dividing, calculating mentally, calculating mentally with jottings, place value, redistribution, regrouping, 0 as a placeholder, whole number, decimal (fraction), (common) fraction, percentage, estimating, rounding, inverse, speed, pace, rate, distance, time, rotation, diameter, radius, π (pi), circumference, arc, discount, original price, discounted price, quotient

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Approach problem solving confidently and can identify alternative ways of solving a problem.
- Choose calculating strategies and methods which are appropriate to the problem.
- Work systematically to solve problems involving more than one step.
- Interpret answers or results to calculations and express solutions in appropriate units of measure, according to the problem context.
- Round numbers to an appropriate degree of accuracy when calculating, according to the problem context.

NPC Milestone 5

- Solve non-routine problems using all four operations (NPC 6:5b)

Explorer Progress Book 6b, pp. 18–19

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 19: Price Crash

After completing work on Activity 2, give children Explore More Copymaster 19: Price Crash to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 94–97

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Solving non-routine problems involving decimals – dividing, multiplying and subtracting](#)
2. [Solving non-routine problems involving fractions and percentages – dividing, adding and subtracting](#)
3. [Solving non-routine problems – multiplying and dividing](#)
4. [Solving more non-routine problems – adding, multiplying and dividing](#)

Geometry 3: Transformations in the four quadrants

Key mathematical ideas Invariants, Statistics, Scaling

Educational context

This activity group builds on children's previous work on coordinates (e.g. in the Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 4 and 5 Teaching Resource Handbooks, Geometry 4 and 2 respectively, where they were taught to use coordinates as a way of describing and recording position, as well as the term 'translation' and the idea of using coordinates to define precisely the start and end points of a translation). Children continue to describe transformations with precision, this time describing the precise position of points using coordinates in all four quadrants, that is, with coordinates with positive and negative numbers. This, in turn, builds on work with negative numbers in Number, Pattern and Calculating 6 Teaching Resource Handbook, Calculating 1. Children draw shapes and their images under given reflections or translations, and identify reflections and translations from given shapes. Children should be encouraged to work systematically, and allowed ample opportunity to predict results and then check their outcomes.

Learning opportunities

- To introduce coordinates in all four quadrants.
- To describe positions on the full coordinate grid.
- To draw and translate simple shapes on the coordinate plane, and reflect them in the axes.

Terms for children to use

point of intersection, axis, axes, origin, coordinate, quadrant, translate, transform, general instruction, congruent, positive, negative, direction, quadrilateral, polygon, bisect, vertex

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Can generalize that coordinates describe position in relation to given axes.
- Explain that to the right of the y-axis the x-coordinates are positive; to the left of the y-axis the x-coordinates are negative; above the x-axis the y-coordinates are positive; below the x-axis the y-coordinates are negative.
- Translate coordinates accurately using coordinates.
- Identify the translation that would move an original shape to its new position.
- Use written coordinates to visualize and predict results.
- Locate and name coordinates of 'missing' vertices of regular polygons.

GMS Milestone 3

- Read and plot points using coordinates in all four quadrants (GMS 6:3f)
- Describe, draw and translate 2D shapes using the coordinates of their vertices (GMS 6:3g)
- Reflect points and shapes in both x- and y-axes using coordinates (GMS 6:3h)
- Describe the movements of shapes accurately using the language of transformations (GMS 6:3i)

Explorer Progress Book 6, pp. 14–15

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance.

Explore More Copymaster 3: Translation Game

After completing work on Activity 3, give children Explore More Copymaster 3: Translation Game to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 98–101

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Introducing coordinates in four quadrants](#)
2. [Using coordinates in four quadrants](#)
3. [Transformations in four quadrants – translation](#)
4. [Transformations in four quadrants – reflection in the axes](#)
5. [Exploring rectangles, parallelograms and rhombuses on the coordinate grid](#)

Pattern and Algebra 4: Using symbols and letters for variables and unknowns

Key mathematical ideas Generalizing, Pattern, Algebra, Functions, Inverse, Equivalence, Mathematical thinking and reasoning

Educational context

In this activity group, children continue to explore how to describe general situations and rules mathematically. They are supported to express patterns numerically, e.g. as sequences and functions, and to identify and describe relationships between numbers, e.g. as formulae. This links to children's work in the *Geometry, Measurement and Statistics 6 Teaching Resource Handbook*, Measurement 2. This leads into describing general rules which apply in any instance of the same type of situation, and, building on their work in Pattern and Algebra 3, to expressing these rules concisely using algebra, with letters standing for unknown values and variables. For example, in Activity 6 they work out how to describe the commutative property of adding two numbers – the property that the order in which the numbers are added doesn't matter – more succinctly, as $a + b = b + a$. Connecting with the work of Pattern and Algebra 2, we explore general rules of divisibility for help in finding factors.

Learning opportunities

- To describe a numerical pattern or general relationship in words and algebraically, as a formula.
- To recall and use tests of divisibility by 2, 3, 5, 9 and 10.
- To describe and explain the commutative property of adding and multiplying.

Terms for children to use

algebra, algebraic notation, symbol, generalize, reasoning, logic, systematic, show, prove, pattern, sequence, constant difference, term, first term, term- to-term rule, predict, relationship, general rule, general term, n th term, unknown, variable, value, expression, equation, equivalent, inverse, function, function machine, input, output, divisibility, test of divisibility, factor, multiple, prime, composite, commutative property, associative property, number trio, part-whole relationship

Assessment opportunities

Look and listen for children who:

- Use the terms for children to use effectively.
- Can identify the term-to-term rule in a linear sequence, e.g. in the sequence 38, 43, 48, 53, ... the term-to-term rule is 'add 5'.
- Describe a rule for finding the general term of a linear sequence and express this with an algebraic expression, e.g. $5n + 33$ in Activity 1.
- Can explain algebraically how 'think of a number' problems work.
- Can explain the general relationship between an 'input' (x) and an 'output' (y) for a particular function (e.g. for a function described by $y = 3x$, y is always three times x , x is always one third of y).
- Can identify a missing input or output for a given function machine, and a missing instruction, e.g. ' $\times 3$ ' for a given set of inputs and outputs.
- Can write an equation to show the general relationship between input and output for a given function, represented as x and y respectively, e.g. $y = 3x$.
- Use tests of divisibility to sort numbers.
- Describe the commutative properties of adding and of multiplying in general terms, including algebraically, e.g. $a + b = b + a$, $ab = ba$.
- Can explain why adding and multiplying are commutative, while subtracting and dividing are not.

NPC Milestone 5

- Use symbols and letters to represent variables and unknowns in mathematical situations (NPC6:5a)

Explorer Progress Book 6b, pp. 20–23

After completing work on this activity group, give small focus groups of children their Explorer Progress Books and ask them to work through the challenges on the pages. As children complete the pages, assess what progress they are making with the central ideas from the activity group. Refer to the assessment opportunities for assistance. Children will also have the opportunity to complete their Learning Log (pp. 22–23) where they can reflect on the mathematics they have done.

Explore More Copymaster 4: Secret Function Machine

After completing work on Activity 4, give children Explore More Copymaster 4: Secret Function Machine to take home.

Pupil Book 6, pp. 102–105

These pages in the Pupil Book provide further practice and challenging questions. You can use them to follow up the activities and deepen the learning.

Focus activities

1. [Investigating rules and generalizing with algebra](#)
2. [Generalizing about linear sequences using symbols and letters](#)
3. [Generalizing about 'think of a number' problems](#)
4. [Using symbols to describe function machines](#)
5. [Generalizing about divisibility](#)
6. [Expressing general laws of arithmetic](#)

Assessment support

The Explorer Progress Book pages will help you record and assess learning throughout the programme. Here are two additional tools to support you with assessment. Log on to your Numicon Online subscription and click on the name of the resource below to open it.

Milestone Assessment cards

Materials for children’s self-assessment: question cards, category cards, a quick guide, milestone statements, Teaching Progression and answers. NOTE: This resource is provided as a zip file. Download, right-click and click ‘Extract’ to open the files.

The question cards are also provided on the next page of this document.

6.1 Numicon Milestone Assessment – NPC 6 Milestone 1 (Teacher)

Answers are in bold.

<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>1</p> <p>Can you identify the value of each underlined digit in these numbers? Answer in words.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4 <u>8</u>72 635 Seventy thousand</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4 <u>2</u>93 542 Two hundred thousand</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>6</u> 385 293 Six million</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>2</p> <p>Can you identify the value of each underlined digit in these numbers? Answer in words.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5295-<u>0</u>28 Two hundredths</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3028-4<u>0</u>9 Nine thousandths</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>4</u>81-276 Four hundreds</p> </div>
NPC Milestone 6:1a	NPC Milestone 6:1a
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>3</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>4</p> </div>

Milestone Assessment Tracking

A detailed tracking sheet for assessing your class.

Milestone	Code	NPC / GM	Numicon strand	AG	NC strand
Number, Pattern & Calculating 6 Milestone 1					
By this point, children should be able to:					
• Understand the value of each digit in large numbers up to ten million and numbers with up to 3 decimal places	NPC6:1a	NPC	NNS	NNS1	Number & place value
• Order numbers with up to 8 digits and position them on a number line	NPC6:1b	NPC	NNS	NNS1	Number & place value
• Use appropriate mental methods to add, subtract, multiply and divide increasingly large numbers	NPC6:1c	NPC	C	C2	Add, subtract, multiply and divide
• Use different approaches to add and subtract negative numbers in context	NPC6:1d	NPC	C	C1	Number & place value
Number, Pattern & Calculating 6 Milestone 2					
By this point, children should be able to:					
• Identify common factors, common multiples and prime numbers	NPC6:2a	NPC	P&A	P&A1	Add, subtract, multiply and divide
• Compare and order fractions by expressing them as equivalent fractions with a common denominator	NPC6:2b	NPC	NNS	NNS2	Fractions
• Use estimation to check answers to calculations	NPC6:2c	NPC	C	C3	Add, subtract, multiply and divide
• Solve problems which require answers to be rounded to specified degrees of accuracy	NPC6:2d	NPC	C	C3	Add, subtract, multiply and divide
• Use column methods of adding and subtracting for larger numbers and decimals	NPC6:2e	NPC	C	C4	Add, subtract, multiply and divide
• Understand, recall and use equivalences between simple fractions, decimals and percentages	NPC6:2f	NPC	C	C5	Fractions
Geometry, Measurement & Statistics 6 Milestone 1					
By this point, children should be able to:					

Milestone Assessment cards

Click on a Numicon milestone below to jump to the question cards that relate to it.

Milestone	Milestone statements	
<u>NPC Milestone 1</u>	Understand the value of each digit in large numbers up to ten million and numbers with up to 3 decimal places	NPC6:1a
	Order numbers with up to 8 digits and position them on a number line	NPC6:1b
	Use appropriate mental methods to add, subtract, multiply and divide increasingly large numbers	NPC6:1c
	Use different approaches to add and subtract negative numbers in context	NPC6:1d
<u>NPC Milestone 2</u>	Identify common factors, common multiples and prime numbers	NPC6:2a
	Compare and order fractions by expressing them as equivalent fractions with a common denominator	NPC6:2b
	Use estimation to check answers to calculations	NPC6:2c
	Solve problems which require answers to be rounded to specified degrees of accuracy	NPC6:2d
	Use column methods of adding and subtracting for larger numbers and decimals	NPC6:2e
	Understand, recall and use equivalences between simple fractions, decimals and percentages	NPC6:2f
<u>GMS Milestone 1</u>	Use formal notation to denote parallel, perpendicular and equal length lines in geometric diagrams	GMS6:1a
	Recognize and classify a wide range of 2D shapes based on their properties	GMS6:1b
	Calculate missing angles in polygons, along straight lines, around a point and that are vertically opposite	GMS6:1c
	Construct triangles and other polygons from given properties	GMS6:1d
	Calculate the mean average of a set of data	GMS6:1e
	Create, use and interpret conversion graphs	GMS6:1f
	Convert between metric and imperial speeds	GMS6:1g
	Construct and interpret pie charts to solve problems	GMS6:1h
<u>NPC Milestone 3</u>	Use the BODMAS convention for order of operations to solve problems	NPC6:3a
	Generate and describe linear number sequences including expressing term to term and general rules of number patterns	NPC6:3b
	Solve problems involving unequal sharing and grouping using knowledge of fractions and multiples	NPC6:3c
	Recognize proportionality in contexts when the relations between quantities are in the same ratio	NPC6:3d
	Convert simple fractions to decimal fractions by dividing	NPC6:3e
<u>GMS Milestone 2</u>	Use formulae to find the area of triangles (area = $\frac{1}{2} \times b \times h$) and parallelograms (area = $b \times h$) and understand why they work	GMS6:2a
	Find the area of composite shapes by partitioning into triangles and/or rectangles	GMS6:2b
	Recognize and create nets of cubes	GMS6:2c
	Create nets of cuboids and prisms	GMS6:2d
	Use nets to calculate surface area	GMS6:2e

Milestone	Milestone statements	
<u>NPC Milestone 4</u>	Use short and long multiplying and dividing to solve problems, including those involving decimals	NPC6:4a
	Add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers	NPC6:4b
	Multiply simple pairs of proper fractions	NPC6:4c
	Divide proper fractions by whole numbers	NPC6:4d
	Express missing number problems algebraically	NPC6:4e
	Enumerate possibilities of combinations of two unknowns	NPC6:4f
<u>GMS Milestone 3</u>	Carry out calculations involving lengths and volumes of cubes and other cuboids, using formulae where appropriate	GMS6:3a
	Convert between different metric units of volume	GMS6:3b
	Use and understand the effects of scaling on area and volume	GMS6:3c
	Recognize and name the radius, diameter and circumference of any circle	GMS6:3d
	Recognize that the diameter of any circle is twice the radius	GMS6:3e
	Read and plot points using coordinates in all four quadrants	GMS6:3f
	Describe, draw and translate 2D shapes using the coordinates of their vertices	GMS6:3g
	Reflect points and shapes in both x and y axes using coordinates	GMS6:3h
	Describe the movements of shapes accurately using the language of transformations	GMS6:3i
<u>NPC Milestone 5</u>	Use symbols and letters to represent variables and unknowns in mathematical situations	NPC6:5a
	Solve non-routine problems using all four operations	NPC6:5b